

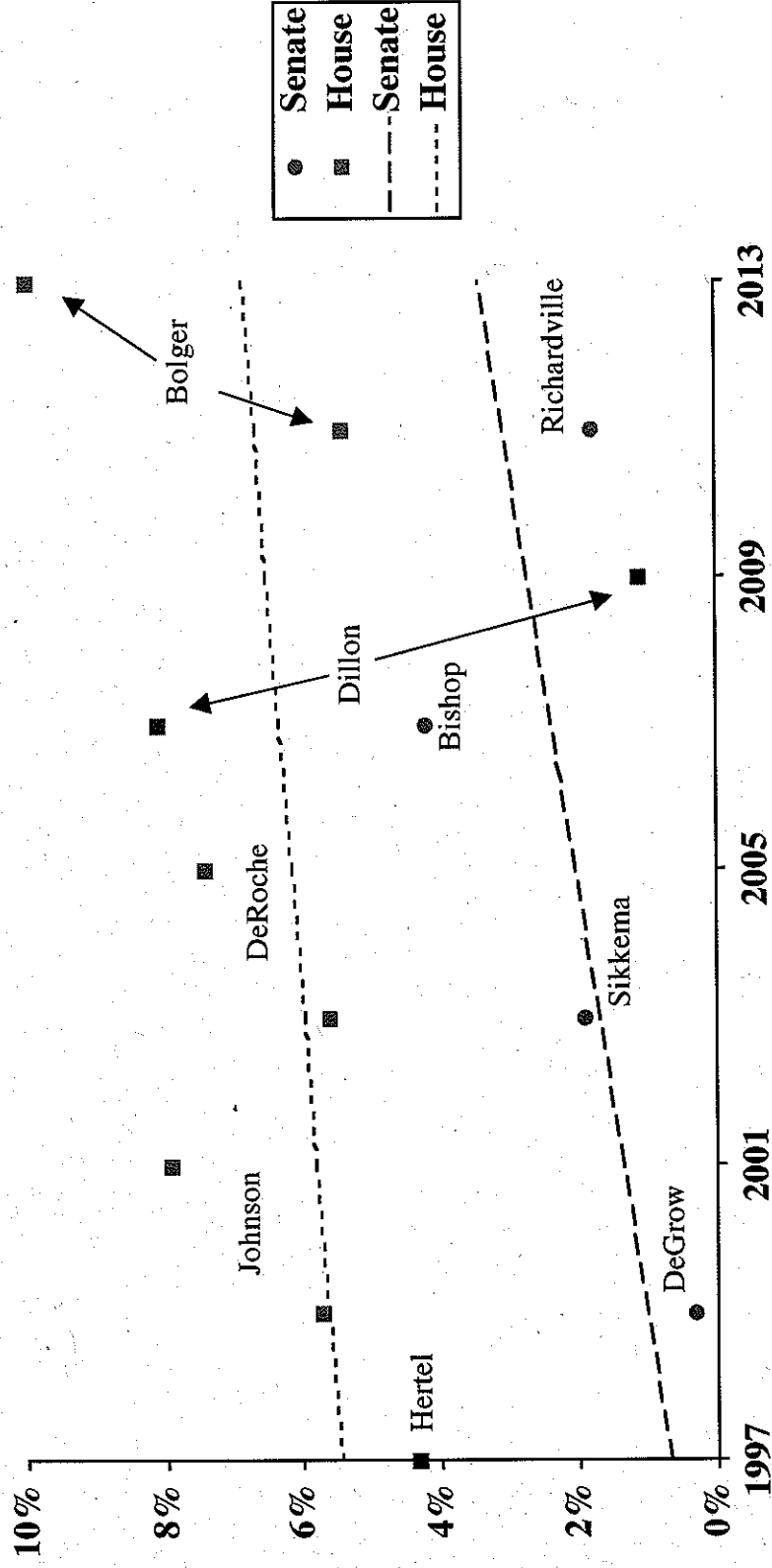
I'm a Ferndale resident. I'm not a lobbyist – so no company or organization is paying me for my time or reimbursing the mileage costs for my trip to Lansing. I am opposed to Senate Bills 288 and 289. My primary objection to SB 288 is the unmerited insertion of an appropriation so the bill may not be subject to a referendum by the state's voters. This cynical ploy to keep millions of Michigan residents from the most basic and direct form of government – voting for laws at the ballot box – is one of the most contemptible acts an elected official can do. Instead, the legislature would prefer residents to go through a filter made up of 148 legislators. I believe the bill is simply retribution for Michigan residents who are circulating petitions to make hunting wolves a ballot box issue and the bill's sponsor is upset that money from out of state is being used. I would never have thought that would matter to someone who has accepted over \$14,000 in out-of-state contributions. It's the kind of thing that make the term *politician* a pejorative term. Wouldn't one prefer being known as a statesman rather than a politician? My secondary objection questions why the legislature would allow the commission to designate an animal species as game yet not trust the commission to remove a species from the game list. One would think if the commission was smart enough to put them on the list, they're smart enough to take them off the list. Elsewhere in the bill, "sound scientific management principles" are to be utilized. Is the science a one-way street such that commissioners may write down a species but the legislators are keeping the erasers for themselves?

On to Senate Bill 289: I too, believe there is value in hunting and fishing and I understand its benefits. However, when the legislature declares citizens have a right to hunt & fish, I fear for unintended consequences due to that right. For example: due to residents having a right to farm, concentrated animal feeding operations can pollute on an industrial scale yet often use the "Right to Farm" act and project an an old-fashioned 50's era small, wholesome family farm. I'm sure that was an unintended consequence of the right to farm act. This bill isn't the same and it includes the phrase, "subject to regulations and restrictions ... and law" but as I stated earlier, I'm concerned about unintended consequences. I like to hike. In the bill's first sentence, you choose to protect the people's right to hunt & fish yet not the people's right to hike. I suppose I'm out of luck and so are others and any other rights, like bicycling or canoeing, or any other right that might conceivably come to the Natural Resources Committee. I am unaware of existing evidence that there is a problem that requires Senate Bill 289 as the solution.

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# How Much Does the Majority Party Stack Legislative Committees?



Zero indicates committee composition is the same proportion to the entire legislative body.